ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is provided a licensing system comprising an application information database into which a license management server machine stores a license menu containing a function, a term and a number of times and the like for which usage may be approved with respect to software to be usage-approved. A user terminal is capable of accessing the application information database via an Internet network. Further, when the license management server machine creates a pass containing the function, the term and the number of times of use and the like based on agreement/selection made at the user terminal and sends this pass to the user terminal, the user terminal sends out, to the software that is the subject of the usage-approval, a run-approval or run-disapproval command data in accordance with information on the function, the term and the number of times of use and the like included in the received pass and becomes able to use the software in a manner in conformity with the content of the usage-approval in the pass. Therefore, according to the licensing system of the present invention, a software license granting technique is provided in which a range of software licensing choices is expanded so that various user needs can be met even with the same single software, and unlawful copying of the software that is approved for use by the user can be eliminated.